

Teddy Tinyfingers
a comedy sketch idea by Jonathan D. Steinhoff, 1-14-09

As a metaphor for the kind of absolute autonomy that a Barrack Obama ultimately requires, what is therefore a timely sketch about **TIM BURTON** defending his artistic autonomy: an on-the-set, all-out dispute between **BURTON** and his star, **JOHNNY DEPP**.

BURTON is making a movie inspired by the previous success he had with “Edward Scissorhands”. However, this time the character, Teddy Tinyfingers, has deliberately blown off his own hands using explosives, just so that he could wear artificial hands with very tiny fingers. Teddy Tinyfingers’ motive: he will be able to type on the tiny keyboards one finds on handheld computer devices better than anyone else. It soon becomes apparent, as we watch the dispute between **DEPP** and **BURTON**, that **DEPP** had only agreed to star in this movie because he felt sure he could cajole **BURTON** into reconsidering, and making a sequel to “Edward Scissorhands” instead. **DEPP** apparently had waited until they were on-set ready to film before first broaching this to **BURTON**. **BURTON** is furious, but **DEPP** is adamant, and so the argument rages back and forth. The nearby crew avoid meeting **BURTON**’s eyes, obviously believing Depp is right.

DEPP: People don’t want to go to the movies to see someone with tiny fingers!

BURTON: I’ll make them want to. I made them want to see someone with scissors for hands, I can make them want any kind of hands I choose!

DEPP: A sequel to “Edward Scissorhands”, now that would work.

BURTON: No! This is “Teddy Tinyfingers”!

DEPP: “Teddy Tinyfingers”, why that’s stupid.

BURTON: You said you loved the idea! You signed the contract! Wait! You’ve been planning this all along!

DEPP: Well, um....

BURTON: You actually thought you would be able to change my mind! I don’t believe this!

DEPP: Well, um....

BURTON: You waited until I had everything all worked out, all the pre-production, everybody here, and then you were just going to change my mind?

DEPP: Well, um....

BURTON: Do you have any idea how many hours I spent just making the miniature model of the handheld device just so that I could work out the camera angles in the little dollhouse, where I made each little doll myself? Do you know how long it took just to make the outdoor shutters on the third floor of the dollhouse?

DEPP: Teddy Tinyfingers, Tim? I mean, that's not, it's not masculine. People liked scissors for hands because it's masculine.

BURTON: I seem to recall a not-so-masculine pirate....

DEPP: I felt it was appropriate for the character, and that director was willing to trust me on it.

BURTON: And you should trust me on the tiny fingers!

DEPP: No, no you're not getting it. You should trust me and make this "Edward Scissorhands II".

BURTON walks off the set in a state. **DEPP** smiles.

DEPP: I won.

The crew all cheers.

Announcer (over graphic of movie still of **DEPP** smiling cunningly, in full Scissorhands costume): "Edward Scissorhands II", coming soon to a theatre near you.

The End